

POHICK DESERTED; ELKS COUNT COIN

Hands of Clock Turned
Back So Visitors Could
Stay Longer.

Pohick is today a deserted village. Gone is the postoffice and the German garden. The barn dance is a thing of the past, but there still remains to the Elks the joy of counting the receipts of the most successful jubilee ever given in Washington by their organization.

Yesterday was visiting Elks' day. From Baltimore came a delegation of 40 in special cars, and the ancient city of Alexandria sent a delegation of 30. The visitors were met by Fred J. Mersheimer, chairman of the executive committee, and escorted to the clubhouse, where luncheon was served. Brief addresses were made by Hugh F. Harvey and Robert M. McWade.

In order that the visitors might enjoy to the last moment the delights of the village the hands of the town clock were turned back one hour last night when they pointed to eleven. When at last the gates were closed there was not enough light on the ground to provide a light luncheon for a dyspeptic vegetarian.

The feature of the afternoon program was the motor races, which resulted as follows:

Five mile motor race—S. W. McPherson, first; W. F. Throop, second, and J. E. Berryman, third.

Five mile gasolene auto race—S. A. Luttrell defeated Charles E. Miller, Gardiner Orme, and Martin Bray.

Ten mile race—E. J. Neuber, first; W. Smith, second, and Victor Emerson, Jr., third.

In the fourth race the cars were all owned and driven by Elks. Thomas E. Miller was the victor, followed by J. A. Byrne and Adolph Loeh.

In the fifty mile race only thirty-nine miles were run. W. Smith won with a record of 1:04:15. His competitor was John J. Fisher.

The silver cup in the pony exhibition was awarded to Anton Kern. Jack Kern came second; Lea Costello, third, and Harry Hull, fourth. Gus W. Brahier was judge.

PREFERS DEATH; ENGLISH TOO HARD

German Kills Himself Because He
Can't Learn Language or
Get Work.

NEW YORK, June 19.—Having decided it would be easier to die than to learn to speak English, Herman Doelle, a German blacksmith, whose home was in 40 East Sixty-fifth street, committed suicide by inhaling illuminating gas.

Fifteen years the man, who was 55 years old, tried to learn English and obtain steady and remunerative employment. He failed in both endeavors. Recently he had threatened repeatedly to kill himself. His despondency was increased because he had lost his position and his wife, Agnes, was compelled to go out and work in a cigar factory to get bread and butter for the family.

The first intimation the neighbors had of the tragedy was when they heard the screams of Mrs. Doelle in the flat. She had come home from a hard day's work. Entering the dining room she smelled gas. Looking toward the jet she saw a tube leading from it to the couch. On the couch, with the other end of the tube clamped in his teeth, lay Doelle. He was dead.

The man had been dead for more than an hour. The coroner will hold an inquest.

INSURANCE COMPANY HAS GOOD SHOWING

Approved Report of Washington
Life Gives Total Assets of
\$18,655,942.

The approved report of the Washington Life Insurance Company by the New York Insurance Department has just been received, and shows the company's total assets to be \$18,655,942, with a reserve on policies, additions, and annuities of \$17,565,478.

In its report, which is for the year ending December 31, 1935, the company states it has paid out in that time in death claims \$913,573; in maturity endowments, \$758,784, and in dividends, \$112,774. The total expenses of management were \$383,627, while taxes and expenses on real estate amounted to \$145,553.

The income from premiums during the year is shown to be \$2,228,449; from interest, \$560,611, and from rentals \$372,673. The Home office building was appraised at \$3,817,000. It was stated that the earning power is kept below a normal figure by losses entered into by the former administration, and which expire at various times between 1919 and 1932. The examiners, therefore, deducted \$192,708 from the appraised value. Despite this, the value placed on the building by the department exceeds the company's appraisal by \$41,517.

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Poisoning of Bloomer Girl A Mystery None Has Solved

Puzzle As Great As Was Her
Burning By Acid a
Year Ago.

NEW YORK, June 19.—The strange death of Miss Miriam Frances Bloomer from cyanide of potassium poisoning on Wednesday evening is a sealed mystery, along with the story of how she was burned with acid a year ago. Her brothers were permitted to start for Cincinnati with the body yesterday.

No further information was given regarding the tragic accident, which occurred in the apartment of J. Ralph Bloomer, a brother, at 40 East Twenty-sixth street, than the statement issued by Coroner Acritelli that the poison had been left in a glass by Miss Bloomer's maid, who had been cleaning jewelry.

The reticence on the part of the family, the physicians, and the coroner to discuss the case veils the death of Miss Bloomer, who was at one time the fiancée of Congressman Nicholas Longworth, in almost as much mystery as was created just a year ago, when it became known that she had been strangely burned about the face and body by an acid.

J. Ralph Bloomer, who is a prosperous broker, with offices at 20 Broad street, and Martin B. Bloomer, who is connected with the Link Chain Belt company of New Jersey, accompanied the body, which will be buried from the Bloomer home at the Hotel Arms, Walnut Hills, Cincinnati.

Yesterday Coroner Acritelli, who issued a permit for the removal of the body on Wednesday night shortly after he was called into the case, gave a slightly different version of the facts from that which was supplied to the newspapers on the night of the tragedy.

While discussing the case, the coroner exhibited the glass from which the fatal draught was taken, and which still contains a sediment a quantity of cyanide of potassium sufficient to kill a dozen people.

Seized Glass of Poison.

J. Ralph Bloomer has figured strangely in the life of his sister, who was tall, queenly, always exquisitely gowned and described as being a splendid type of the American beauty. Until he moved into the apartment at 40 East Twenty-sixth street, he occupied a part of a house at 35 Madison square. It was at the latter address that the first accident occurred.

One morning in April, 1935, Ralph Bloomer was notified by his sister's maid that Miss Bloomer had been seriously burned with acid during the night. He went to her bedroom, but was unable to get an explanation of the strange state of affairs. Miss Bloomer was in a semi-hypnotic state, but marks on the side of her face, her body, one hand, and a leg, showed that she had in some strange way been the victim of acid.

"The glass did not contain water when Miss Bloomer rushed into the bathroom of her brother's apartment to relieve a choking sensation caused by eating a croaker," the coroner said. "She evi-



MISS MIRIAM FRANCES BLOOMER,
Former Fiancee of Representative
Longworth, Who Died After Drink-
ing Cyanide of Potassium.

dently took no heed of what she was doing as right by the side of the glass, which she took was another glass, which either she or the maid, Jeanne Pierre, had filled with pure water for the purpose of rinsing a belt buckle which had first been placed in the glass containing the cyanide solution to remove tarnish.

The coroner said there was not enough of the poison in the untouched glass to have seriously harmed the young woman. The statement of Dr. Forbes Hawkes, who lives in the adjoining house and who was summoned immediately after the accident, with the circumstances as related by the maid and J. Ralph Bloomer, convinced the coroner, he said, that he would not be justified in holding a formal inquest.

Clairvoyant Called In.

The doctors who were called in could not rouse the patient, and were unable to make a diagnosis which was even satisfactory to themselves. Finally a clairvoyant, Mrs. Pandora, was taken to the sick room, with the hope that the beautiful girl might yield to the influence of mystics, but this, too, failed of satisfactory result.

To the newspapers the family alternately denied and confirmed the story of the burning, but the true circum-

WOOD FOR PAVING IS MUCH NEEDED

Present Treatment Gives It
Many Advantages Over
Minerals.

There is a boom on now for wood pavements. Three-quarters of a century ago our ancestors tried wood street pavements, but were handicapped for some preservative treatment to prevent quick decay. Wood paving, therefore, was abandoned, and its revival nowadays is due to the fact that experiments with creosoted wood have proved the practicality of its general use.

Among the advantages claimed for wooden pavements are greater smoothness, resiliency, ease of repair, and more rapid cleaning. Through selection of suitable woods, cutting the blocks into rectangular shape so that their edges may lie close together, and treating them chemically to increase their durability, wood pavement is better in many respects than any other in common use.

The cost of creosoted, or "preserved" wood, is greater than that of macadam, brick, or asphalt, but not so great as granite or sandstone. On the other hand it exceeds any of the first group in wearing qualities. Wood paving costs from \$2.40 to \$3.50 a square yard. Cedar has been laid extensively in the Middle West, and oak, cypress, and white pine in various cities of the country. A pavement of Australian eucalyptus has lasted in one city for from fifteen to twenty years.

The United States Forest Service believes that the cheaper woods can be generally utilized for wood paving, and has issued a circular giving instructions for use.

stances, if known to the immediate relatives, were never revealed to the public. As soon as she was able to be removed, Miss Bloomer appeared at Saranac Lake, where she remained in practical seclusion until September.

Yesterday Ralph Bloomer was almost prostrated by the shock of his sister's death and remained all day in the apartment where the accident occurred, until time to leave on the Pennsylvania Limited, by which the body was conveyed to their former home.

"I can make no explanation," he said through a friend. "It was such a terrible accident that I am not yet over the first shock. My sister was in the happiest frame of mind when I reached home Wednesday evening, and had for a number of days been making arrangements to go with a party of friends for an outing on Lake Erie. Before the close of the summer she intended going abroad with other members of our family."

Mr. Bloomer and his friends declined to discuss the mystery of the burning.

SAME KIND OF A JOB.

"Be you Dr. Smith?" asked a tall, lean specimen, walking into the office of a fashionable practitioner.

"Well, look a-her, old fellow," remarked the visitor. "I'm glad to find you at last. I've been in 88 when you was in Kansas, how yer set a feller's arm an' didn't charge him for it."

"Yes," said the doctor, with the prospect of a big fee before him.

"I'm the feller, an' I've broke the other arm, an' I come ter have it fixed on the same terms."

"Anthony Comstock Reformers" Fail To Produce Results in Philippines

Reform of the Anthony Comstock variety refuses to "take" in the Philippines, according to information received at the War Department. The reformers in that archipelago have recently been given involuntary membership cards in the Down and Out Club.

The New York stunt of putting the kibosh to horse racing resulted in total failure. The assembly, the first ever held in the islands, declined to put a ban on the sport, and the bookies will remain undisturbed in the distant habitation. The Filipinos see nothing cruel or offensive in betting on horse races, until they lose, and then the resentment is passing.

Efforts were made to put the cockpit out of commission in Manila. But the "Game Rooster Men" were too influential. "Effort made to close cock-

pit unsuccessful; protests of indignation by American ladies, Philippine Teachers' Association, 2,500 Filipinos against exploitation Filipino vice," read a cablegram sent to President Roosevelt for aid. The pugnacity of roosters is still being put to the test, however, in the Manila cockpits.

The most alarming reform attempted was that to prohibit the importation and sale of playing cards. Not only the gamblers, but the American woman put down "her little foot" real hard, when they heard of that movement. The importation of playing cards from Spain is a considerable item commercially, and the Spanish consul general hot-footed it to Governor General Smith to protest against such action. Again the Filipino Assembly prevented a horrible raid on the amusements of the islands by putting a quietus to the movement.



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In private life he was extremely social—yet truly temperate—drinking good malt beer and wine in strict moderation. Once, when sick in bed, he caused his couch to be wheeled near the dining-room door, that he might call to his acting representative at the festive board: "Doctor, are you passing the bottle? Do your duty, doctor, or I must cashier you!"

Justly named "The Father of the Constitution," he died at eighty-five. When shall his name be forgotten?

References:
Biography by Sydney Howard Gay.
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The Federalist, by Madison.
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